



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Garvey et al**

Application No: **09/512,829**

Group Art Unit: **1624**

Filed: **February 25, 2000**

Examiner: **D. Rao**

For: **Methods using Proton Pump Inhibitors and Nitric Oxide Donors**

Attorney Docket No: **102258.284**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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**Provisional Response to Restriction Requirement and Request for Reconsideration of
Restriction Requirement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.143**

This response is submitted in reply to the Restriction Requirement dated February 26, 2002, for which a response is due on or before March 26, 2002. No fee is believed to be due; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 08-0219 to maintain the pendency of the present application.

I. Request for Reconsideration of Restriction Requirement

Under 37 C. F. R. § 1.143, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction requirement dated February 26, 2002.

The examiner restricted the invention as follows:

Group I	claims 50, 51, 64, 36-45 and 79-84	method of improving the gastroprotective properties of a proton pump inhibitor ¹
Group II	claims 59-60 (in part), 36-45 and 79- 84	method for preventing or treating a gastrointestinal disorder with the exception of <i>H. pylori</i> associated disease using a proton pump inhibitor ²

¹ The inventions in Examiner's Groups I-V are all directed to the methods of use of a proton pump inhibitor compound **in combination with** a compound that donates, transfers or releases nitric oxide, induces the production of endogenous nitric oxide or endothelium-derived relaxing factor, stimulates endogenous synthesis of nitric oxide or is a substrate for nitric oxide synthase.

² Applicants respectfully note that *H. pylori* is included in the gastrointestinal disorders in claim 59

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Group III	claims 66, 36-45 and 79-84	method for decreasing or reversing gastrointestinal toxicity using a proton pump inhibitor
Group IV	claims 68, 59-60 (in part), 36-45 and 79-84	method for preventing or treating an infection caused by <i>H. pylori</i> or a <i>H. pylori</i> associated disease using a proton pump inhibitor
Group V	Claims 71-72, 36-45 and 79-84	method for treating a viral infection using a proton pump inhibitor

The pending claims are directed to the methods of using a proton pump inhibitor in combination with a compound that donates, transfers or releases nitric oxide, induces the production of endogenous nitric oxide or endothelium-derived relaxing factor, stimulates endogenous synthesis of nitric oxide or is a substrate for nitric oxide synthase. Independent claims 50, 59, 64, 66 and 68 are directed to methods of use for **gastrointestinal disorders** by administration of a proton pump inhibitor in combination with a NO³ donor as follows:

claims 50 and 64	method of improving the gastroprotective properties of a proton pump inhibitor i.e. a gastrointestinal disorder
claim 59	method for preventing or treating a gastrointestinal disorder
claim 66	method for decreasing or reversing gastrointestinal toxicity or facilitation ulcer healing a gastrointestinal disorder
claim 68	method for treating an infection caused by <i>H. pylori</i> or a <i>H. pylori</i> associated disease, i.e., a gastrointestinal disorder

Applicant's respectfully submit that independent claims 50, 59, 64, 66 and 68 and claims dependent thereon (i.e., Examiner's Groups I-IV) are all related as they are directed to methods for the treatment and/or prevention of a **gastrointestinal disorder** by administration of a proton

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pump inhibitor in combination with a NO donor. Thus, the restriction requirement is not proper. To show that the inventions are distinct, the Examiner must show either that (1) there is a separate classification of the claims; (2) a separate status in the art when they are classifiable together; or (3) a different field of search.

Moreover, a search of the prior art for the gastrointestinal disorders of Group I would necessarily encompass a search of the prior art for the gastrointestinal disorders in Groups II-IV. Thus, the prior art for Group I will also be the same prior art for Groups II-IV. Additionally, the prior art search already conducted by the Examiner for compositions comprising a proton pump inhibitor in combination with a NO donor would be the same prior art for the methods of use for compositions comprising a proton pump inhibitor in combination with a NO donor.

II. Proposed restriction requirement

Applicants respectfully propose the following restriction requirement for consideration:

Group I:	claims 50, 51, 59, 60, 64, 66, 68, 36-45 (in part) and 79-84 (in part)	method for treating and/or preventing a gastrointestinal disorder using a proton pump inhibitor and a NO donor
Group II	claims 71-72, 36-45 (in part) and 79-84 (in part)	methods for treating a viral infection using a proton pump inhibitor and a NO donor

III. Provisional Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicants provisionally elect Group I, with traverse, drawn to methods of improving the gastroprotective properties, the anti-*Helicobacter pylori* or the antacid properties of a proton pump inhibitor.

IV. Election of Species

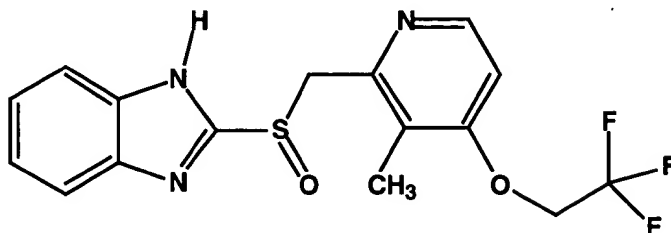
In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, lansoprazole as the proton pump inhibitor, and S-nitrosoglutathione as the compound that donates transfers or releases nitric oxide, induces the production of endogenous nitric oxide or endothelium derived relaxing factor, or is a substrate for nitric oxide synthase. This election

³ Throughout NO donor refers to a compound that donates transfers or releases nitric oxide, or induces the production of endogenous nitric oxide or endothelium derived relaxing factor, or is a substrate for nitric oxide synthase.

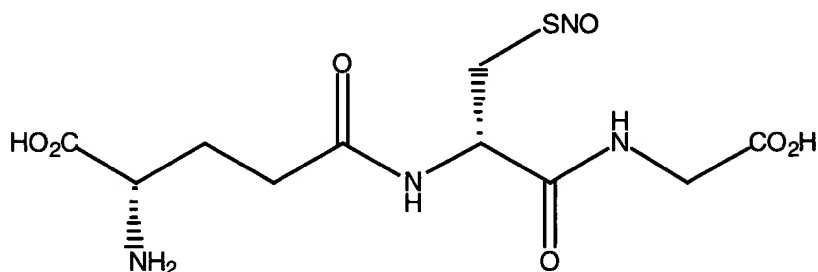
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of species is identical to Applicant's election of species in reply to the Restriction Requirement dated June 19, 2001.

Lansoprazole has the following structure:



S-nitrosoglutathione has the following structure:



V. Information Disclosure Statement

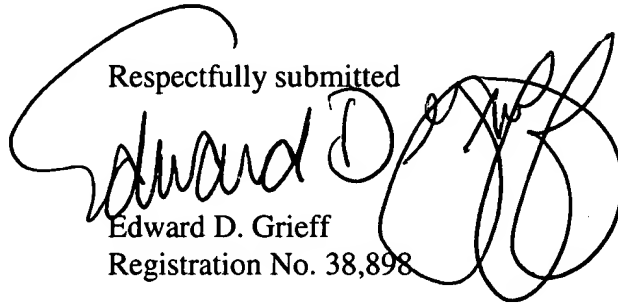
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge the references cited on the Information Disclosure Statements and PTO-1449 Forms filed April 20, 2000, and December 13, 2001. A copy of the PTO-1449 Forms from these previously-filed Information Disclosure Statements is submitted herewith for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the PTO-1449 Forms with the next communication from the Office.

VI. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn, and replaced with Applicant's proposed restriction requirement.

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An early and favorable consideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

Edward D. Grieff
Registration No. 38,898

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HALE and DORR LLP
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 942-8453